

Argentina

Section 6. Discrimination, Societal Abuses, and Trafficking in Persons

The law prohibits discrimination based on race, sex, nationality, ideology, social status, or physical characteristics, and the government generally enforced these prohibitions.

Acts of Violence, Discrimination, and Other Abuses Based on Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity

Lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) persons generally enjoyed the same legal rights and protections as heterosexual persons. No laws criminalize consensual same-sex conduct between adults. LGBT persons could serve openly in the military. The age of consent is the same for heterosexuals and homosexuals.

The law gives transgender persons the right to legally change their gender and name on identity documents without prior approval from a doctor or judge. It also requires public and private healthcare plans to cover some parts of hormone therapy and gender re-assignment surgery, although the Ministry of Health did not effectively enforce this requirement.

LGBT organizations operated freely. They worked closely with academic institutions, NGOs, and government authorities without interference.

National anti-discrimination laws do not include sexual orientation and/or gender identity as protected grounds, but there was no official discrimination based on sexual orientation or gender identity in employment, housing, statelessness, or access to education or health care. Overt societal discrimination generally was uncommon, but media and NGOs reported cases of discrimination, violence, and police brutality toward the LGBT community, especially transgender persons. On February 8, police pepper sprayed Damian Marsero outside a night club in La Pampa after other customers complained of his homosexual behavior. On October 7, alleged neo-Nazis in Mar del Plata beat to death a transgender woman. On October 11, approximately 10 men beat Adrian Ramos, a gay man, while he was leaving a night club in Trelew.